

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-20. Canceled

21.(new) A method for improving a pixel array, comprising:

- testing the pixel array to determine at which address a bad pixel is located;

- disconnecting said bad pixel from the array;

- connecting one or more of said bad pixel's nearest neighbors to the array at said address, whereby said nearest neighbors serve, in combination, as a replacement for said bad pixel; and

- implementing the steps of disconnecting said bad pixel from, and connecting one or more nearest neighbor pixels to, the array, through use of fusible link technology.

22.(new) A method for improving a pixel array, comprising:

- testing the pixel array to determine at which address a bad pixel is located;

- disconnecting said bad pixel from the array;

- connecting one or more of said bad pixel's nearest neighbors to the array at said address, whereby said nearest neighbors serve, in combination, as a replacement for said bad pixel; and

- implementing the steps of disconnecting said bad pixel from, and connecting one or more nearest neighbor pixels to, the array, through use of anti-fuse technology.

23.(new) A method for improving a pixel array, comprising:

- testing the pixel array to determine at which address a bad pixel is located;

disconnecting said bad pixel from the array;

connecting one or more of said bad pixel's nearest neighbors to the array at said address, whereby said nearest neighbors serve, in combination, as a replacement for said bad pixel; and

performing said testing prior to dicing into chips, thereby enabling the steps of disconnecting said bad pixel from, and connecting one or more nearest neighbor pixels to, the array to be accomplished by means of chip-level wiring.